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Gawsworth Gazette

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Objections submitted to Peak Cluster Proposal

The initial opportunity to feedback comments and concerns about the proposed Peak Cluster CO2 pipeline and 'Above Ground Installation' (AGI) in Gawsworth ended on 27th February.

Many Gawsworth residents and Parish Councillors joined webinars or attended the consultation event in Macclesfield to find out more about how the pipeline and AGI construction will affect local life and assess the impact of a permanent AGI placed on farmland north of Dark Lane.

The information from Peak Cluster was carefully curated and questions about why the route through Gawsworth had been chosen, rather than alternatives, were not answered. More information about the project subsequently emerged from Facebook posts. Several petitions have also been launched to record residents' opposition to the project. Location specific concerns, like those for Gawsworth, have been identified but fundamental questions about the justification for the project including the balance between environmental harms and benefits and the safety of the novel technology were at the forefront of the

public's concerns. Many asked why alternatives to a pipeline across the Peak District, Cheshire and the Wirral have not been independently compared.

Gawsworth Parish Council was grateful to receive copies of residents' submissions to Peak Cluster. Their eloquent and informed commentary helped formulate the council's submission to Peak Cluster.

The Parish Council submitted a strong objection to the proposals. While supporting efforts to tackle climate change, the Parish Council stressed that environmental benefits must not come at the expense of local communities, heritage, or sensitive landscapes.

The Council argued that the project has failed to apply the mitigation hierarchy, particularly by proposing a pipeline route through Gawsworth Village and an Above Ground Installation (AGI) within the Green Belt, despite the existence of more suitable southern alternatives. It called for the immediate reconsideration of both the pipeline route and AGI location, favouring options well south of the village.

Significant concerns were raised about the proposed AGI site between Dark Lane and the A536, which is described as unsuitable due to its Green Belt status, elevated and visually intrusive position, poor access, and proximity to land earmarked for future housing.

The Parish Council also highlighted serious environmental and heritage risks, including potential impacts on Danes Moss SSSI, peatland hydrology, ancient fishponds, historic parkland, and the conservation area. The conflict with the principles of the Gawsworth Neighbourhood Plan was highlighted.

Finally, the Council warned of likely detrimental effects on community life, local businesses, farms, footpaths, and the wellbeing of residents, including those near Gawsworth School. It also called for greater transparency, requesting the publication of detailed safety assessments, ecological and hydrological data, strategic justifications, and a full analysis of alternative routes and non-pipeline options.

You can read the full submission on the [GawsworthLife](http://GawsworthLife.com) website.

Mobile Library

The mobile library will be on Church Lane from 3:45 to 4:10 on 19th March.

Parking Problems

Parking laws have again been raised by Cheshire Police.

Notices have been posted around Gawsworth in problem areas, such as Longbutts Lane near the school. The notices remind people that even where there are not double-yellow lines, it is an offence to:

- Park a vehicle blocking a resident leaving their driveway
- Park on the pavement and fail to leave enough room for a wheelchair or double-buggy to pass
- Park on the road and fail to leave enough room for another vehicle to pass.

Danes Moss North now an 'asset of community value'

Land once earmarked for development has now been registered as an asset of community value thanks to the Save Danes Moss campaign.

The nomination was made under provisions of the Localism Act 2011 which can see assets recorded as assets of community value (ACV) if they meet certain tests. If the asset is then put up for sale, there will be a six-month period for a community to buy it. This protection is currently being strengthened by the government's English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill.

The application included enough detailed information to define Danes Moss North as an ACV however Cheshire East Council (as the landowner) made an official objection to its nomination which triggered a legal hearing,

involving senior legal officers of the council plus four councillors, to assess the objection.

Save Danes Moss presented evidence at the hearing, and the objection was subsequently dismissed. Most of the Council-owned land on Danes Moss North is now officially an Asset of Community Value.

Cheshire East Council's replacement Local Plan, covering the period from 2030 onwards, is currently in preparation.

Save Danes Moss hope that recognition of the site as an ACV will result in it being excluded from development in the Local Plan.

Congratulations to Save Danes Moss for the continued success in their campaign to protect this treasured area.

Spring comes to Gawsworth

One of the joys of Gawsworth Park is the magnificent cherry plum tree in the orchard area.

It is one of the earliest trees to blossom in the UK and is looking magnificent at the moment. Stand on the path, under its branches, to get the full benefit of its scent - a mindful experience!

The Cherry Plum (*Prunus cerasifera*), also known as the Mirabelle Plum, was introduced to Britain in the 16th century and has naturalised here. It produces edible fruits used in jam and baking. The flowers of cherry plum are attractive to bees and other pollinating insects. Ripe fruits are popular with birds and

butterflies who like any over-ripe fallen fruits in summer. They can grow to 8m but unfortunately are not long lived.

The Parish Council is replacing trees that fell in the park during the autumn storms and plan to purchase another cherry plum to plant near to the existing one. We hope the current tree has several years of life in it yet but it is nice to think that future Gawsworth residents will be also able enjoy the early spring spectacle.

Meanwhile, in Nancy's Wood the first marsh marigolds are in flower. Earlier than Dane's Moss nature reserve this year.





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u3a Open Morning

The Macclesfield u3a is hosting an open morning on Friday 27th March from 10am to 1pm in Macclesfield Town Hall.

With the motto 'retired from work but not from life' the university of the third age is an international

movement which aims to educate and stimulate the retired members of communities.

The Macclesfield u3a has around 45 interest groups covering topics from allotment gardening, pickleball, military aviation and

card making. They are keen to encourage recently retirees to take up activities to keep them active, engaged and informed. The open morning is a chance to find out more about what the u3a offers, with stands, stalls and socialising!

Find out more at www.maccu3a.uk

Crumbs!

Cheshire Rural Touring Arts is bringing another fantastic night of live entertainment to Gawsworth Village Hall on Saturday 16th May at 7.00pm.

Packed with comedy, clowning and even live baking on stage, Crumbs promises a truly original night out. The show follows the misadventures of Petronella Parfait, a former TV baking star

suddenly dropped from her high-profile contract and forced to reinvent herself in the ruthless world of social media influencers.

Expect hilarious mishaps, sharp satire, songs, original music – and a delicious treat to taste as the show comes to an end.

Book early for what promises to be a brilliant, funny and feel-good evening right here in Gawsworth. Tickets are £13 and available from Gawsworth Hub or <https://shorturl.at/WGevw>



The latest from Gawsworth Hub

Our community hub has been buzzing with activity this winter, bringing residents together while also helping to keep everyone healthy and safe.

On Tuesday 20th January, Gawsworth Community Hub supported a Blood Pressure Pop-Up Event run by Macclesfield Care Community, with support from Andrews Pharmacy. The session offered free blood pressure checks for all adults, along with helpful lifestyle advice on the importance of knowing your blood pressure and understanding the risks of high blood pressure. The event was extremely well attended and provided a valuable opportunity for local residents to access an important health check close to home.

We were also privileged to welcome the Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service for a Home Safety and Wellbeing session held in the Village Hall. The talk was led by Dave Hughes and covered all aspects of staying safe in the home. Topics included checking smoke alarms regularly, knowing where keys are kept for windows

and doors in case of fire, and the dangers of overloading plug adapters.

Attendees were also given the opportunity to have their blood pressure checked and to be screened for Atrial Fibrillation. Everyone left reassured and better informed. A Hub spokesperson said "All in all it was an excellent afternoon, and I think we are very lucky to have such a helpful and approachable Fire & Rescue Service." A huge thank you to the Cheshire Fire & Rescue Team and to everyone involved in making these events such a success.

Looking ahead, there is lots to look forward to in the coming weeks. Join in the fun with an Easter Bunny Trail around the village. Maps will be available from the Hub all week from 30th March and you can meet the bunnies on Easter Saturday, 4th April.

Celebrations are already underway for the Hub's 15th Birthday. Pop in on 10th March for coffee and cake.

Shop Opening Hours

Monday	08:00 - 13:30
Tuesday	08:00 - 13:30
Wednesday	08:00 - 13:30
Thursday	08:00 - 16:00
Friday	08:00 - 16:00
Saturday	08:00 - 13:00
Sunday	08:00 - 10:30

Don't forget to browse the shop for beautiful gifts for Mother's Day on 15th March and pop in to treat your mum on Friday 13th March for our Coffee & Cake Offer for just £4.50.

With health, safety, and community spirit at its heart, Gawsworth Hub continues to be a place where everyone is welcome. We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events soon.

Planning Applications

Here are the latest applications in Gawsworth:

26/0681/PRIOR-1A
Warren Farm, Church Lane
Prior Approval for a single storey flat roof rear extension, extending 4.80 beyond the rear wall.

Recent decisions include the approval of an agricultural workers dwelling at Trevors Close Farm, and a single storey and rear extensions at 9 Woodhouse Lane.

A proposal to demolish a workshop and build a new two-bed bungalow at Harbour Lane was recently refused. Cheshire East Council determined the site was unsustainable due to the lack of non-car access to basic services and facilities.

This echoed the upheld appeal for the land at Dark Lane where inspectors agreed with Cheshire East's refusal of new dwellings on similar grounds.

